

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE

5-03

3/4/03

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY STATEMENT

The Food Safety and Inspection Service reaffirms its commitment to the principles of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO). All Agency employees and applicants for employment are to be treated with respect, dignity, fairness, and equality regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, marital, family, or parental status, political beliefs, or protected genetic information. Employees must abide by this policy regardless of personal opinions.

Managers and supervisors must fully ensure that they base their employment decisions and actions on equal employment opportunity laws and policies. They are responsible for providing leadership, educating and updating employees on EEO and civil rights issues in the workplace, and ensuring that lines of communication are open at all levels. Each manager and supervisor must take personal responsibility for dealing with employees and communicating information in a way that ensures equal access.

As the Agency's mission evolves, we must continue to demonstrate our commitment to attain and maintain a diverse workforce. This will enhance our ability to successfully develop effective solutions to the challenges of food safety and biosecurity risks. Continuing to attract a talented, universal, and gender-diverse workforce in all occupations and grade levels, and demonstrating fairness, cooperation, and respect toward all employees is critical. Therefore, discriminatory actions in the workplace will not be tolerated. Agency policy mandates equal opportunity and prohibits discrimination in all policies, practices, and operations.

For more information on EEO or civil rights, employees may contact the Civil Rights Division at (301) 504-7756 (voice and TDD) or 1 (800) 269-6912 or link to the Civil Rights Division web page at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OM/CRD/toc.htm>.


Suzanne Durb
Acting Deputy Administrator
Office of Management

DISTRIBUTION:
All Employees

NOTICE EXPIRES:
March 1, 2004

OPI:
CRD – Program Planning,
Analysis and
Compliance Branch